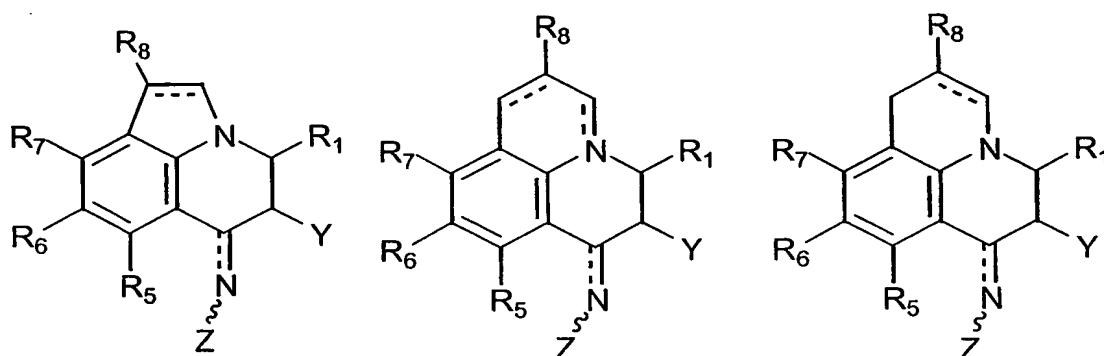
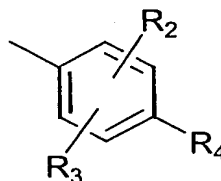


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or when X is NR_{12} , the substituent R_{12} may be a bond such that R_8 and X together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form one of the following structures:



where Y is



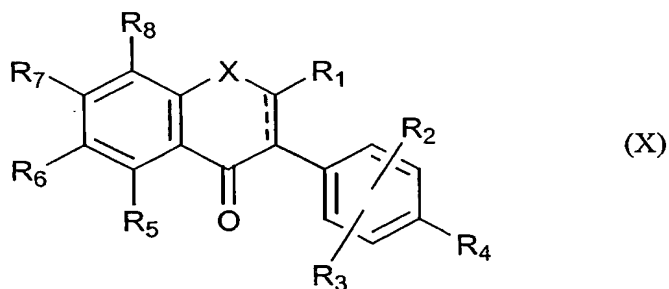
and wherein

R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 and Z are as defined above, and

the drawing "—" represents either a single bond or a double bond,

which compounds include pharmaceutically acceptable salts and derivatives thereof.

2. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) comprising the step of reacting the 4-keto group of a compound of the formula (X):



wherein

R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 and X are as defined in claim 1, and

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the drawing "___" represents either a single bond or a double bond, with an aminating agent.

3. A method for the treatment, prophylaxis or amelioration of a disease or disorder which method includes the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of one or more compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof to a subject.
4. A method for the treatment, prevention or amelioration of diseases associated with aberrant cell survival, aberrant cell proliferation, abnormal cellular migration, abnormal angiogenesis, abnormal estrogen/androgen balance, dysfunctional or abnormal steroid genesis, degeneration including degenerative changes within blood vessel walls, inflammation, and immunological imbalance, which comprises administering to a subject one or more compounds of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof optionally in association with a carrier and/or excipient.
5. A method of inducing apoptosis in cells expressing abnormal prosurvival phenotype which comprises contacting said cells with one or more compounds of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof optionally in association with a carrier or excipient.
6. A method for inhibiting migration of cells having an abnormal cellular migration phenotype which comprises contacting said cells with a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof optionally in association with a carrier or excipient.
7. A method for inhibiting angiogenesis in tissue expressing aberrant angiogenic phenotype which comprises contacting said tissue with a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof optionally in association with a carrier or excipient.

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8. A method for the treatment, prevention or amelioration of cancer in a mammal which method comprises the step of bringing a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof into contact with cancerous tissue in a mammal that is suffering from a tumour, such that neoplastic development in said cancerous tissue is retarded or arrested.
9. Use of one or more compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a disease or disorder.
10. Use of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof as an anti-inflammatory agent.
11. An agent for the treatment, prophylaxis or amelioration of a disease or disorder, which agent comprises one or more compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof.
12. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises one or more compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof in association with one or more pharmaceutical carriers, excipients, auxiliaries and/or diluents.
13. A drink or food-stuff, which contains one or more compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or derivative thereof.
14. A compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as herein described with reference to the Examples and/or accompanying drawings.

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